

NOW READY.
CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY
FOR
CHINA, JAPAN, PHILIPPINES, BORNEO,
SEYCHELLES, COCHIN
CHINA, SIAM, &c.
FOR 1883.
With which is incorporated
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.

The issue for 1883 which is the
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL PUBLICATION,
has been considerably extended, both in the
Directory proper and in the Appendix. The
parts in BORNEO have been added to the former; whilst the latter includes in addition
to the usual contents, the Treaty between
BRAZIL and CHINA, the new regulations for
the overland trade between RUSSIA and CHINA,
the Revised Consular Regulations for the
Treaty Ports of CHINA, Postage Regulations,
and other additions.

THE ALPHABETICAL LIST OF FOREIGN
RESIDENTS WHICH HAS BEEN MUCH INCREASED.
THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING LITHOGRAPHED MAPS
AND PLANS—

CODE OF SIGNALS USED AT VICTORIA PEAK.
MAP OF THE ISLAND OF HONGKONG.

PLAN OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA.
NEW MAP OF THE FAR EAST.
PLAN OF THE CITY OF CANTON.

PLAN OF THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS AT
SHANGHAI.

PLAN OF YOKOHAMA.
MAP OF MANILA.

MAP OF THE TOWN AND ENVIRONS OF
SINGAPORE.

The large Edition consists of over ONE
THOUSAND pages of printed matter. It is in-
dispensable in every Mercantile Office in the
Far East and will be found a useful guide to
those travelling, either on business or pleasure.

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is published in Two Volumes—Complete at \$5;
smaller edition \$3.

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Daily Press Office—27th January, 1883.

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GOVERNOR and his Royal Highness the
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HONGKONG DISPENSARY. [23]

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Communications from English writers should be
addressed "The Editor," and those from America "The
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Correspondents are requested to forward their name
and address with communications addressed to the
Editor, not for insertion, but as evidence of good
faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one
side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not
ordered for a full period will be continued until
countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should
be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.

After that hour the supply is limited.

The Daily Press—27th January, 1883.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 15TH, 1883.

EARLY in 1860 there was published in the
Government Gazette a return laid before the
Legislative Council showing all the bank-
ruptcies filed in the Supreme Court of Hong-
kong from the passing of Ordinance No. 5
of 1864 up to the 1st August, 1879. As
was to be expected from the discreditable
manners in which the business of the Official
Assigne had been previously conducted, there were a large number of outstanding
bankruptcies of old date. In the late
Gazette is published returns showing: (1) All
Bankruptcies marked as outstanding in the
previous list and which have since been
wound up; (2) Bankruptcies outstanding at
the date of last return, but not so marked,
and which have since been wound up; and
(3) All bankruptcies pending at date of last
return or filed from 1st August, 1879, to
31st December, 1882. These returns are
highly satisfactory as showing the great
improvement which has been effected with regard to the management
of bankruptcies in the Supreme Court.

When Mr. GIBSONS arrived to take up
the position of Registrar and Official
Assigne he commenced the cleansing of the
Angcan stable, he found, but was not with
out encouragement in fact with no en-
couragement from the then Chief Justice.

Sir JOHN SMITH, indeed, frequently ex-
pressed his opinion that the creditors
must always be held responsible for
the conduct of a bankruptcy, and infer-
entially, that if the debtors did not move,
it was as well to let things alone. While
no doubt the avaricious of creditors must to
a considerable extent be held responsible for
the neglect which had been the rule with
regard to bankruptcies, on the other hand it
may fairly be argued that if the state thaws
the protection of the Bankruptcy Act around
defaulting debtors, it ought to exercise re-
sonable care and intelligence in the conduct
of the machinery of the law as affecting the

interests of creditors. Things are now hap-
pily changed, from their former disgraceful
state, and Mr. GIBSONS, the present Regis-
trar, with the support of the Chief Justice,
seems to have devoted very commendable
energy to bringing affairs in the Official
Assigne's office into order. The returns
published in the late Gazette show that since
the date of the last list, no fewer than fifty-
two bankruptcies have been wound up. Of
these two dated from 1865, seven from 1866,
six from 1867, five from 1868, and five from
1869. At present there are sixty-seven bank-
ruptcies outstanding, none of which are
earlier than 1878, while altogether there are
only six of earlier date than 1880.

Cases will of course always occur in
which the nature of the estate is such that
it will take considerable time to wind it up, but the old bankruptcies which
have been recently wound up did not we-
believe, belong to that category; and there
was no reason why they should not have been
disposed of years ago. In a mercantile com-
munity like this, where the bankruptcy law
is frequently availed of, and where the
opportunities of fraud are so considerable, it
is especially important that the strictest care
and watchfulness should be observed by the
officers concerned in the practical working of
that law. The recently published returns
show that the present incumbent of the
office of Official Assigne is possessed of
energy and industry in matters of detail, and,
what is of even greater importance, the pro-
ceedings in recent cases have shown that
bankruptcies are now settled much more
closely on their merits when they are com-
menced than they used to be.

The delivery of the American mail was begun
at 11.40 yesterday morning.

The trooper Himalaya left Singapore on
Tuesday morning for this port.

The Hongkong Horticultural Society's annual
exhibition will open to-day in the Botanic Gar-
dens, at 2 o'clock p.m.

The Agents (Messrs. Mathews & Co.) inform
us that the Andaman steamer Lloyd's steamer
from Foochow, left Singapore on Tuesday
last, and may be expected to arrive on the
20th instant.

A parade and inspection of the Government
and Volunteer Fire Brigades was held at the
City Hall yesterday afternoon, and a drill
and dress parade at the Central Fire Brigade Station at
3.30 p.m. on Tuesday next, the 20th instant.

We have to acknowledge receipt of "The
Japan Director," published at the Gazette office
of Yokohama. It is the counterpart of the
Yokohama Times, and contains much valuable
information, but is in a somewhat confused
state, which is worse than useless. The Appendix
contains some entirely new features; the Penal
Code and Code of Civil Procedure of Japan
occupying 154 pages. Although it will no-
tarily be a generation or more before Europeans
are true to these laws, having carried out in such
a manner as would justify the introduction
of the Japanese into the market, it is
desirable that the introduction in the alphabetical
list of letters indicating the nationality of
the transactors, the publication of the Code in English
will prove not only interesting but useful to all
having business or social relations with the
natives of Japan. The book also contains the
Constitution of 1868 between Japan and the then
Treaty Powers, Great Britain, France, United
States and Holland, including the revised tariff
and general warehouse regulations.

The Directors have the pleasure to present the
annual report of the company for the year
1882.

The balance at credit of the year ending
1st December, 1882, is \$14,388.91

Debtors of \$15 per
Paid losses and claims under
Policy returned on policies
cancelled

Balance of profit.....\$73,232.31
Of this sum the directors propose to appropriate
\$24,000 to the payment of a final dividend of 8% per
share, making \$18 per share; \$12,000 to the
payment of dividends for the year ended
1st May to 31st December; \$5,357.76 to increase the
reserves to half a million dollars, and the balance
of \$35,884.45 they consider admissible to carry
forward to the next year. The amount of the
fifth month's wages and there some more
clothing was found which the complainant
identified as part of her missing property,
and the woman confessed that her mother, the
second prisoner, left them on the morning of
the robbery. The sixth prisoner was seen leaving
the house, but no notice was taken of him at the
time, but later on he was arrested and a quantity
of pawn shop wares were found in one of which
she had been engaged in the stolen property.

The fourth prisoner was recognised as an old
offender, having been in gaol five times since 1876.
The prisoners were committed for trial at
the Chairman, who was carried by committee.

The CHAIRMAN.—That includes the cost of the
ice. You cannot make it without outlay.

MR. DOUGLAS JONES.—Those figures include the whole
cost.

The CHAIRMAN.—The question raised appears
to be one of simple salaries and wages.

MR. DOUGLAS JONES.—I simply remark that
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HONGKONG TIDE-TABLE.

TIME	HIGH WATER.		LOW WATER.	
	Hongkong Mean Tide.	Height.	Hongkong Mean Tide.	Height.
Th. 15	m. 5 1/2	ft. in.	5 1/2	ft. in.
F. 16	m. 6 37 1/2	ft. 1 1/2	6 20 1/2	ft. 2 1/2
S. 17	m. 7 40 1/2	ft. 2 1/2	7 18 1/2	ft. 3 1/2
M. 18	m. 8 42 1/2	ft. 3 1/2	8 32 1/2	ft. 4 1/2
Tu. 19	m. 9 45 1/2	ft. 4 1/2	9 35 1/2	ft. 5 1/2
We. 20	m. 10 48 1/2	ft. 5 1/2	10 38 1/2	ft. 6 1/2
Th. 21	m. 11 51 1/2	ft. 6 1/2	11 28 1/2	ft. 7 1/2
F. 22	m. 12 54 1/2	ft. 7 1/2	12 18 1/2	ft. 8 1/2
S. 23	m. 1 57 1/2	ft. 8 1/2	1 53 1/2	ft. 9 1/2
M. 24	m. 2 1 1/2	ft. 9 1/2	2 53 1/2	ft. 10 1/2
Tu. 25	m. 2 23 1/2	ft. 10 1/2	2 45 1/2	ft. 11 1/2
We. 26	m. 3 2 1/2	ft. 11 1/2	3 15 1/2	ft. 12 1/2
Th. 27	m. 3 15 1/2	ft. 12 1/2	3 35 1/2	ft. 13 1/2
F. 28	m. 4 18 1/2	ft. 13 1/2	4 35 1/2	ft. 14 1/2
S. 29	m. 5 2 1/2	ft. 14 1/2	5 35 1/2	ft. 15 1/2
M. 30	m. 5 15 1/2	ft. 15 1/2	5 38 1/2	ft. 16 1/2
Tu. 31	m. 6 18 1/2	ft. 16 1/2	6 38 1/2	ft. 17 1/2
We. 1	m. 7 2 1/2	ft. 17 1/2	7 38 1/2	ft. 18 1/2
Th. 2	m. 7 15 1/2	ft. 18 1/2	8 38 1/2	ft. 19 1/2
F. 3	m. 8 18 1/2	ft. 19 1/2	9 38 1/2	ft. 20 1/2
S. 4	m. 9 2 1/2	ft. 20 1/2	9 38 1/2	ft. 21 1/2
M. 5	m. 9 15 1/2	ft. 21 1/2	10 38 1/2	ft. 22 1/2
Tu. 6	m. 10 18 1/2	ft. 22 1/2	11 38 1/2	ft. 23 1/2
We. 7	m. 11 2 1/2	ft. 23 1/2	12 38 1/2	ft. 24 1/2
Th. 8	m. 11 15 1/2	ft. 24 1/2	12 38 1/2	ft. 25 1/2
F. 9	m. 12 18 1/2	ft. 25 1/2	13 38 1/2	ft. 26 1/2
S. 10	m. 1 2 1/2	ft. 26 1/2	1 38 1/2	ft. 27 1/2
M. 11	m. 1 15 1/2	ft. 27 1/2	2 38 1/2	ft. 28 1/2
Tu. 12	m. 2 18 1/2	ft. 28 1/2	3 38 1/2	ft. 29 1/2
We. 13	m. 3 2 1/2	ft. 29 1/2	3 38 1/2	ft. 30 1/2
Th. 14	m. 3 15 1/2	ft. 30 1/2	4 38 1/2	ft. 31 1/2
F. 15	m. 4 18 1/2	ft. 31 1/2	5 38 1/2	ft. 32 1/2
S. 16	m. 5 2 1/2	ft. 32 1/2	5 38 1/2	ft. 33 1/2
M. 17	m. 5 15 1/2	ft. 33 1/2	6 38 1/2	ft. 34 1/2
Tu. 18	m. 6 18 1/2	ft. 34 1/2	7 38 1/2	ft. 35 1/2
We. 19	m. 7 2 1/2	ft. 35 1/2	7 38 1/2	ft. 36 1/2
Th. 20	m. 7 15 1/2	ft. 36 1/2	8 38 1/2	ft. 37 1/2
F. 21	m. 8 18 1/2	ft. 37 1/2	9 38 1/2	ft. 38 1/2
S. 22	m. 9 2 1/2	ft. 38 1/2	9 38 1/2	ft. 39 1/2
M. 23	m. 9 15 1/2	ft. 39 1/2	10 38 1/2	ft. 40 1/2
Tu. 24	m. 10 18 1/2	ft. 40 1/2	11 38 1/2	ft. 41 1/2
We. 25	m. 1 2 1/2	ft. 41 1/2	11 38 1/2	ft. 42 1/2
Th. 26	m. 1 15 1/2	ft. 42 1/2	12 38 1/2	ft. 43 1/2
F. 27	m. 2 18 1/2	ft. 43 1/2	13 38 1/2	ft. 44 1/2
S. 28	m. 3 2 1/2	ft. 44 1/2	13 38 1/2	ft. 45 1/2
M. 29	m. 3 15 1/2	ft. 45 1/2	14 38 1/2	ft. 46 1/2
Tu. 30	m. 4 18 1/2	ft. 46 1/2	15 38 1/2	ft. 47 1/2
We. 31	m. 5 2 1/2	ft. 47 1/2	15 38 1/2	ft. 48 1/2
Th. 1	m. 5 15 1/2	ft. 48 1/2	16 38 1/2	ft. 49 1/2
F. 2	m. 6 18 1/2	ft. 49 1/2	17 38 1/2	ft. 50 1/2
S. 3	m. 7 2 1/2	ft. 50 1/2	17 38 1/2	ft. 51 1/2
M. 4	m. 7 15 1/2	ft. 51 1/2	18 38 1/2	ft. 52 1/2
Tu. 5	m. 8 18 1/2	ft. 52 1/2	19 38 1/2	ft. 53 1/2
We. 6	m. 9 2 1/2	ft. 53 1/2	19 38 1/2	ft. 54 1/2
Th. 7	m. 9 15 1/2	ft. 54 1/2	20 38 1/2	ft. 55 1/2
F. 8	m. 10 18 1/2	ft. 55 1/2	21 38 1/2	ft. 56 1/2
S. 9	m. 1 2 1/2	ft. 56 1/2	21 38 1/2	ft. 57 1/2
M. 10	m. 1 15 1/2	ft. 57 1/2	22 38 1/2	ft. 58 1/2
Tu. 11	m. 2 18 1/2	ft. 58 1/2	22 38 1/2	ft. 59 1/2
We. 12	m. 3 2 1/2	ft. 59 1/2	23 38 1/2	ft. 60 1/2
Th. 13	m. 3 15 1/2	ft. 60 1/2	23 38 1/2	ft. 61 1/2
F. 14	m. 4 18 1/2	ft. 61 1/2	24 38 1/2	ft. 62 1/2
S. 15	m. 5 2 1/2	ft. 62 1/2	24 38 1/2	ft. 63 1/2
M. 16	m. 5 15 1/2	ft. 63 1/2	25 38 1/2	ft. 64 1/2
Tu. 17	m. 6 18 1/2	ft. 64 1/2	25 38 1/2	ft. 65 1/2
We. 18	m. 7 2 1/2	ft. 65 1/2	26 38 1/2	ft. 66 1/2
Th. 19	m. 7 15 1/2	ft. 66 1/2	26 38 1/2	ft. 67 1/2
F. 20	m. 8 18 1/2	ft. 67 1/2	27 38 1/2	ft. 68 1/2
S. 21	m. 9 2 1/2	ft. 68 1/2	27 38 1/2	ft. 69 1/2
M. 22	m. 9 15 1/2	ft. 69 1/2	28 38 1/2	ft. 70 1/2
Tu. 23	m. 10 18 1/2	ft. 70 1/2	28 38 1/2	ft. 71 1/2
We. 24	m. 1 2 1/2	ft. 71 1/2	29 38 1/2	ft. 72 1/2
Th. 25	m. 1 15 1/2	ft. 72 1/2	29 38 1/2	ft. 73 1/2
F. 26	m. 2 18 1/2	ft. 73 1/2	30 38 1/2	ft. 74 1/2
S. 27	m. 3 2 1/2	ft. 74 1/2	30 38 1/2	ft. 75 1/2
M. 28	m. 3 15 1/2	ft. 75 1/2	31 38 1/2	ft. 76 1/2
Tu. 29	m. 4 18 1/2	ft. 76 1/2	31 38 1/2	ft. 77 1/2
We. 30	m. 5 2 1/2	ft. 77 1/2	31 38 1/2	ft. 78 1/2
Th. 1	m. 5 15 1/2	ft. 78 1/2	32 38 1/2	ft. 79 1/2
F. 2	m. 6 18 1/2	ft. 79 1/2	32 38 1/2	ft. 80 1/2
S. 3	m. 7 2 1/2	ft. 80 1/2	32 38 1/2	ft. 81 1/2
M. 4	m. 7 15 1/2	ft. 81 1/2	33 38 1/2	ft. 82 1/2
Tu. 5	m. 8 18 1/2	ft. 82 1/2	33 38 1/2	ft. 83 1/2
We. 6	m. 9 2 1/2	ft. 83 1/2	33 38 1/2	ft. 84 1/2
Th. 7	m. 9 15 1/2	ft. 84 1/2	34 38 1/2	ft. 85 1/2
F. 8	m. 10 18 1/2	ft. 85 1/2	34 38 1/2	ft. 86 1/2
S. 9	m. 1 2 1/2	ft. 86 1/2	34 38 1/2	ft. 87 1/2
M. 10	m. 1 15 1/2	ft. 87 1/2	35 38 1/2	ft. 88 1/2
Tu. 11	m. 2 18 1/2	ft. 88 1/2	35 38 1/2	ft. 89 1/2
We. 12	m. 3 2 1/2	ft. 89 1/2	35 38 1/2	ft. 90 1/2
Th. 13	m. 3 15 1/2	ft. 90 1/2	36 38 1/2	ft. 91 1/2
F. 14	m. 4 18 1/2	ft. 91 1/2	36 38 1/2	ft. 92 1/2
S. 15	m. 5 2 1/2	ft. 92 1/2	36 38 1/2	ft. 93 1/2
M. 16	m. 5 15 1/2	ft. 93 1/2	37 38 1/2	ft. 94 1/2
Tu. 17	m. 6 18 1/2	ft. 94 1/2	37 38 1/2	ft. 95 1/2
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M. 22	m. 9 15 1/2	ft. 99 1/2	39 38 1/2	ft. 100 1/2
Tu. 23	m. 10 18 1/2	ft. 100 1/2	39 38 1/2	ft. 101 1/2
We. 24	m. 1 2 1/2	ft. 101 1/2	39 38 1/2	ft. 102 1/2
Th. 25	m. 1 15 1/2	ft. 102 1/2	40 38 1/2	ft. 103 1/2
F. 26	m. 2 18 1/2	ft. 103 1/2	40 38 1/2	ft. 104 1/2
S. 27	m. 3 2 1/2	ft. 104 1/2	40 38 1/2	ft. 105 1/2
M. 28	m. 3 15 1/2	ft.		

TRACTS.

THE COMING OF THE BRAIDS.
The Old Elasmannus that hair will be braided
and braided in future; and that the coiffure are in-
viting looks to us the short-curls recently in vogue.

Woman's crown and woman's glory,
It is black or blonde or heavy.

Hair that streams through human story:

Bright, a comet; dark, a pall!

Tenor twists, and tenor singes;

Tenor gives you divers tones;

But he's doomed the idiot fringes—

Thank you, tonsee, after all.

Leorio, pure pictures, now dead,

Or Helen's dox and proud head

By no frontal tangles clouded.

Though the lightning glances strike;

Evening can see above her

The right optics of a lover.

Who may once again discover

What a forged forehead like.

Call the old now, come downy;

Prophets of the past and rowdy;

If you fancy futures cloudy.

Through your tufts, they must seem so;

If your little brains are busy

Your own poof's not wrong, is it.

Saying you're no bravo to show?

Said a sense of some shame;

Fashion's set by ugly women,

With the good intent to 'do' me.

As completely as the fair;

And they know that, being braided,

Looks and brows must charm untried,

That their face is best when shaded.

By a fringe that's to their hair.

So begins, the Chit-Chat:

To whom shall no more bite us;

Entwined & Edward, don't cite us

As admirers of your art.

Bald and browless may be casting

In cosmetics for their beauties;

Hero's—Forshead and a Parting

Whence we never more will part!

E. J., in World.

QUEER STORIES.

MISS FALCON'S ENGAGEMENT.

Mr. Deeds, of Gray's Inn-square, regarded

the widow of his former friend and client

the late Alderman Sir Benjamin Falcon, as a

servore affection. As the acting trustee of

the deceased Alderman's will—his co-trustee

being into constant communication with the

widow in the way of business. Lady

Falcon, who was twenty years younger than

her husband when he married her, was an ex-

travagant, frivolous, slightly person, with no

notion of prudence or economy, and a very

unscrupulous, and wayward temper. She

and Mr. Deeds had been at loggerheads ever

since the death of the lamented Alderman,

for the widow was constantly exceeding her

income and running into debt, and the

lawyer was often driven to his wits' end to

relieve her from her embarrassments. Per-

haps Mr. Deeds was wanting in tact and in-

sisted to all ends; at all events, he contrived

to make Lady Falcon lose her temper when-

ever they met, and a visit from her ladyship

was sure to end in a disagreeable scene.

It is not surprising, therefore, that when, on a

certain afternoon, his clerk brought in Lady

Falcon's card, Mr. Deeds should have given

vent to his to some very unparliamentary

language.

"Show her ladyship in," he said, when he

had indulged in this refreshment to his

heart's content. "Confound her!" he

added, glancing at the date indicator on the

shelf, "it was five weeks to quarter-day.

"I'll not advance her a farthing."

"Now, Mr. Deeds, don't look as black as

thunder," exclaimed the lady, as she entered

the room in a whirlwind of rustling silks.

"You are not hurt, yet you know. You

have evidently quite made up your mind

what I have come about."

"Explain, doct. Pray take a seat,

madam," said the lawyer, shaking his head.

"I don't know what you mean by that.

Mr. Deeds, I have not come here to-day

about my own affairs. I think you might

give me credit for not having broken my

promise," returned Lady Falcon, with some

surprise, as she sank into a chair. "I am

denying myself almost the necessities of

life—certainly every comfort and luxury—in

order to make both ends meet."

This was the picture of speech, for the Alder-

man had left a considerable fortune, and his

widow was in comfortable circumstances,

even when—as at the present time—her in-

come was temporarily diminished owing to her

extravagance. The truth was that if Lady Falcon had had fifty thousand pounds,

she would have survived to run through it

in hand, in pecuniary difficulties.

Mr. Deeds was surprised at her ladyship's

disclaimer, for this was the first time within

his experience that the object of her visit

had not related to her personal necessities.

"I have not come about myself at all,"

rejoined Lady Falcon in a more amiable

tone. "I wish to speak to you about my

daughter Amy. Amy is here, you know,

and she is going to be married."

"Indeed! That is news!" said Mr. Deeds.

"I do not think of the marriage settle-

ment. I hope she is making a good match."

"From a worldly point of view, I fear not," replied Lady Falcon. "But, after all,

she is a poor girl, and her parents, without

any fortune, are in a parlous condition.

"Very proper sentiments," remarked the

lawyer, smiling inwardly at the source from

which they emanated.

"However, I did not come here to

marry. I only intended to inquire about her

fortune," continued Lady Falcon, with her

skill laugh. "The fact is, Mr. Deeds, it is

time for me to begin to think of getting

Amy a husband ready. She is to be married

in less than two months, and time passes so quickly! Now, you can imagine how ready I would if I could afford it, pay for the dear child's outfit out of my income.

But, also, in my present circumstances that

is quite out of the question. And yet she

must have a trousseau according to her

and antecedents.

"I—indeed, I was to call upon Mr. Deeds' impulse was to call upon Lady Falcon directly, he made this startling disclosure. On second thoughts, however, he resolved to act more cautiously. It would never do to go to Lady Falcon with news of the kind heard at second hand. It might therefore obtain the least suspicion that he had come to his knowledge before taking any steps upon it. He therefore obtained the young man's address, and presented himself at his chambers one morning, about midday, when, judging from what he had heard of his mode of life, he was pretty sure to find him at home.

Young Ponder received him civilly enough,

though he looked rather askance at him.

The young man was making a light break-

fast of soda-and-brandy and dry toast,

from which his still being arrayed in dress-

gown and slippers—the lawyer con-

cluded he had been up very late the night before. In fact, Mr. Ponder ad-

mitted the impeachment while apologizing

for his state of deshabille, adding with

a charming candour that he had been "deuced-

ly sprung" last night, and was consequently

rather "chippy."

"My dear madam! there can be no such

violent hurry as all that," said Mr. Deeds.

"Besides, the preliminaries of the marriage

are not arranged yet. I must put myself

into communication with the young gentle-

man about the settlement. By-the-by,

what is his name?"

"Oh, never mind the settlement. It is quite unnecessary," said his ladyship, sharply.

"My daughter's future husband has nothing to settle. As for the money that Amy will come in for at my death, it is secured to her own use by her father's will. You remember noticing that. It is so; isn't it?"

"Yes, certainly; it is so," replied Mr. Deeds.

"But, still, even in that case, and though the

gentleman may have nothing, a settled

advisable."

"My dear Mr. Deeds! Really, you legal

gentlemen are too absurd," laughed Lady

Falcon. "I mean, of course, the system is

absurd, should nothing the flush of the

lawyer's check."

"Mr. Ponder seemed rather taken aback at

this statement, and looked disconcerted.

He took a deep breath of brandy-and-soda,

apparently to hide his confusion, and to fortify himself for the ordeal which he

had probably already prepared.

"I think that's sufficient qualification

for my calling upon you, Mr. Ponder," con-

tinued Mr. Deeds, with great severity. "I

have heard certain rumours about you which

require contradiction, or I shall feel it my

duty to reveal my information to Lady Falcon

and her daughter."

"Certainly, not, madam," returned Mr. Deeds.

"But, still, even in that case, and though the

gentleman may have nothing, a settled

advisable."</